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By Adam  
Sexton,  
News  
Reporter

## Dublin man thanks rescuers who saved his life

*911 dispatcher helped man's son render CPR*

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**CONCORD, N.H.** — A Dublin man whose life was saved by near-perfect coordination among his family, a 911 dispatcher and first responders got to meet his rescuers in person Thursday.

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Tom LaFortune, 74, gave a big hug to 911 dispatcher Dan Redin on Thursday afternoon, repeatedly thanking the man who provided the step-by-step instructions that helped save his life last month.

"It's mind-boggling, and the more I hear, the more mystified I am," LaFortune said.



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In October, LaFortune had his two adult children over for dinner when he suffered heart trouble.

"He was just kind of staring off into space and having problems breathing, and I just looked at Denis, and I said call 911," said his daughter, Laura LaFortune.

Redin took the call.

"Right after he got off the phone with dispatch to call out the rescue squad, Dad completely stopped breathing," said Denis LaFortune, Tom LaFortune's son. "So (Redin) immediately said, 'You've got to get him on the floor, lying flat.' I listened for breath, and there was nothing, so he said I had to start compressions. I've never been taught CPR."

Redin guided Denis LaFortune through the process, and together, they kept blood flowing for his father until a Dublin fire and rescue crew arrived and took over.

"He was calm, just like we hope everyone is when they call in, and he did a great job," Redin said.

Tom LaFortune thanked everyone involved in saving his life, saying he owes them all of his tomorrows yet to come.

"I don't know how to put it into words except thank you," he said. "Thank you very, very, very much."

"Nine times out of 10, we don't know any outcomes of any of our calls, good or bad," Redin said. "To have a positive outcome and to get to meet the gentleman -- that's pretty nice."

"It's wonderful," Tom LaFortune said. "That's all I can say."

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